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Message Text

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62
ACTION ACDA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 EUR-10 NSC-10 NSCE-00 PM-03

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 OIC-01 MBFR-02 AEC-05

L-02 SPC-01 SAJ-01 PRS-01 IO-03 DRC-01 /076 W
---------- 027946
P R 051649Z OCT 73
FM AMEMBASSY BONN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7856
SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY
INFO AMEMBASSY LONDON
AMEMBASSY VIENNA
USMISSION NATO BRUSSELS
USDEL SALT TWO GENEVA
USNMR SHAPE

S E C R E T BONN 14496

LIMDIS

SHAPE FOR INTAF: VIENNA FOR MBFR DEL

E.O. 11652: XGDS-1
TAGS: PARM, NATO, GW
SUBJECT: MBFR: NUCLEAR ASPECTS

REF: (A) BONN 14118, (B) LONDON 11200 (NOTAL)

1. FRG CHIEF MBFR NEGOTIATOR BEHRENDS TOLD EMBOFF OCT 4 THAT DURING BILATERAL MBFR CONSULTATIONS THIS WEEK IN LONDON,BRITISH OFFICIALS HAD VOICED STRONG OPPOSITION CONCERNING CONCEPT OF OPEN ENDED WORKING GROUP ON NUCLEAR ASPECTS OF MBFR. AS REPORTED IN REFERENCED EMBASSY LONDON MESSAGE,THE BRITISH HAD STRONGLY UNDERSCORED TO BEHRENDS THE HIGHLY SENSITIVE CHARACTER OF MILITARY INFORMATION WHICH WOULD HAVE TO BE EXAMINED IN ANY ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF MBFR NUCLEAR ASPECTS. BEHRENDS SAID THE BRITISH HAD
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SUGGESTED INSTEAD THAT EXCHANGES OF VIEW ON THIS TOPIC

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OCCUR TRILATERALLY BETWEEN U.S./U.K./FRGG. BRITISH OFFICIALS SAID OPEN ENDED DISCUSSION OF TOPIC IN NATO WOULD BE AN APPALLING PROSPECT.

2. BEHRENDS TOLD EMBOFF THAT BONN DID NOT INSIST UPON ANY PARTICULAR FRAMEWORK FOR ALLIED CONSIDERATION OF MBFR NUCLEAR ASPECTS, BUT BELIEVED THAT, GIVEN GREAT IMPORTANCE OF TOPIC, IT MUST BE CONSIDERED IN AN EFFICIENT MANNER. HE INDICATED THAT TRILATERAL APPROACH WOULD NOT APPEAR TO SUFFICE IN ALLIANCE TERMS. HE SAID THERE WERE "DANGERS OF ANARCHY" ON THIS TOPIC WITHIN ALLIANCE IF A COMMON POSITION WAS NOT ADOPTED; IN THIS CONNECTION, HE PARTICULARLY RECALLED THE COMMENTS OF DUTCH DEFENSE MINISTER IN PARLIAMENT THAT NUCLEAR WEAPONS MUST BE INCLUDED.

3. CONCLUDING, BEHRENDS REITERATED GERMAN CONCERN THAT INCLUSION OF U.S. NUCLEAR ELEMENTS IN MBFR COULD RESULT IN AT LEAST DE FACTO NUCLEAR CEILING LIMITED UNI-LATERALLY TO THE WESTERN SIDE. EMBOFF REBUTTED THIS ARGUMENT, SAYING SUCH A CONSEQUENCE WAS NOT NECESSARY PARTICULARLY GIVEN THE SPECIFIC CHARACTER OF U.S. PROPOSAL. EMBOFF STRESSED THAT U.S. PROPOSAL REFERRED IN PRECISE TERMS TO SPECIFIC NUCLEAR WEAPONS SYSTEMS RATHER THAN TO TOTALITY OF TACNUC'S SO THAT GERMAN CONCERNS OVER POSSIBLE DE FACTO CEILING SEEMED MISPLACED.
HILLENBRAND

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NUCLEAR PROLIFERATION, MBFR, PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY, NUCLEAR WEAPONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 05 OCT 1973
Decaption Date: 28 MAY 2004
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973BONN14496
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: X1 HILLENBRAND
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: BONN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19731049/aaaabjqo.tel
Line Count: 90
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION ACDA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: LIMDIS
Reference: (A) BONN 14118, (B) LONDON 11200 (NO, TAL)
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: WITHDRAWN <07-Aug-2001 by izenbei0, RDFRD, REFER TO DOE>; RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>; APPROVED <20-Sep-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: MBFR: NUCLEAR ASPECTS
TAGS: PARM, GE, NATO
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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